



17 October 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
Director, Office of Legislative Liaison
General Counsel

FROM: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Drug Czar Bill

1. At the Cabinet meeting today, the Deputy Attorney General, Ed Schmuts, said that he thought both the House and Senate were ready to vote a drug czar bill. He and Ed Meese thought that they could be persuaded to take a bill providing for sort of a Cabinet Council which could speak for the Administration and yet not interfere with the operations of the various departments. He asked for exploration with Congress to see what could be worked out. The President expressed great displeasure with Congress interfering with a drug program which is finally being brought together and is now working well. Nevertheless, Schmuts was authorized to explore with the Congress.

2. I asked him whether Justice has already formulated what they want to explore. This was to smoke out what Dan Murphy had suggested to John McMahon at the end of the Cabinet Council meeting last week. Schmuts said that Justice had prepared some papers. I asked whether we could see them and he said yes we could. I suggest that Stan follow through for us to get a copy of those papers and then we should weigh in with Ed Meese, who seems to be carrying the ball on this and who probably will be sympathetic to our requirements, Joe Wright, who was there for OMB, as well as with the Attorney General and Schmuts.

3. Both State and Treasury spoke in a similar vein, seeking assurance that any arrangement would not result in the Justice Department getting into foreign policy or revenue collection.


William J. Casey

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